



**Long Beach Airport Terminal Area Improvement Project EIR
Public Meeting
November 29, December 3, December 5, 2005**

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Comments can also be submitted to:

Angela Reynolds, Environmental Officer
City of Long Beach
Planning and Building
333 West Ocean Blvd.
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All comments must be received by December 22, 2005.

Comment Card

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Please provide your comments below and complete the opposite side of this card. Thank you.

See attached

Long Beach Airport Terminal DEIR Hearing Remarks by Mark Bixby, December 3, 2005

Good morning, my name is Mark Bixby, I live at 501 Margo Avenue, adjacent to the Long Beach airport flight path. I am a member of the steering committee for the Long Beach Alliance and am here to SUPPORT THE PROPOSED AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS!

As the Draft Environmental Impact Report concluded: "The proposed project is the environmentally superior alternative." The 102,890 square foot terminal and the 14 aircraft parking pads are a reasonable compromise between what could be built were the City to follow FAA recommendations and industry standards, and the current undersized and inadequate temporary facilities.

The proposed terminal improvements will provide:

- Larger waiting rooms
- More ticket counter and check-in space
- More concession space
- Cleaner and larger accessible bathrooms
- Modern baggage inspection and handling equipment
- More and closer parking space availability
- And a much better image for the city of Long Beach

As a member of the Long Beach Alliance I have traveled around many districts in the City making presentations to better inform neighborhood groups about the terminal improvements. In those presentations a vast majority of the feedback we received was supportive of the proposed terminal improvements. The Alliance supports the existing noise ordinance and is on record opposing any increase in flights not allowed under the existing ordinance.

The EIR, through months of detailed study and research by independent, professional consultants hired by the City of Long Beach, concluded that the airport improvements will improve the environment surrounding the airport. Let me restate and emphasize this point, the conclusion of the EIR, as required under the California Environmental Quality Act is: Building nothing, or

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building something smaller than what is currently proposed, is WORSE for the environment is than building the proposed terminal improvements.

People love the quick in and out experience of the Long Beach airport – the proposed terminal enhancements will improve that experience. People love the classic feel of the original terminal building – the proposed terminal enhancements will preserve the original terminal building and classic feel yet provide adequate space for the passengers and airlines that serve them.

Building a smaller facility than proposed in the EIR or attempting to “choke” the airlines’ ability to service the allowable flights under the current noise ordinance by limiting the number of airline parking pads would be a dereliction of responsibility. Our City staff and Council members have heard from the vocal minority of residents who live in the flight path. Their concerns have been addressed through a variety of mitigation measures proposed in the EIR, ~~all~~ ^{many} of which would improve their current condition.

Now the City Council is charged with making the right decision for all of Long Beach and the region, for the three million-plus airline passengers and thousands of airport area workers and employees. It is time the City of Long Beach replaces the temporary trailers, tented walkways, chain-link and barbed-wire fenced baggage handling facilities with permanent, professional facilities. These much needed and long overdue terminal and parking improvements will reduce jet idling, reduce airport service vehicle emissions, increase safety for passengers and for airport facility workers, enhance the Long Beach travel experience and improve the image of the City of Long Beach.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

